GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3563
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2008
EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) spent on education during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government is not spending even 6 per cent of the GDP on education;

(c) if so,the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to ensure expenditure of at least 6 per cent of the GDP on education in the current financial year?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a): The public expenditure on education as percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during 2005-06,2006-07 and 2007-08 is 3.46, 3.64 (provisional) and 3.67(provisional) respectively.

(b)to(d): Education being a subject in the concurrent list of the Constitution,States play a significant role in the education and have major contribution in the public expenditure on education.Allocation of Rs.2,69,873 crore provided to the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Rs.1,84,930 crore for the Department of School Education & Literacy and Rs.84,943 crore for the Department of Higher Education) in the XI Five Year Plan,constitutes 19.4% of the total XI Five Year Plan allocation,as compared to 7.7.% in the X Five Year Plan.This substantial increase in central plan outlay for education represents a very substantial effort on the part of the Central Government towards raising public spending on education towards the goal of 6% of GDP.Overall progress towards this goal,would however,also depend on the efforts made by the State Government.